

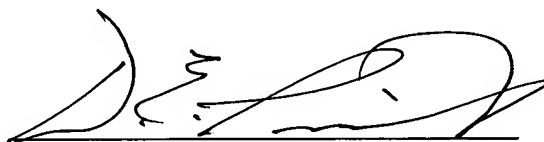
## **REMARKS**

By this Preliminary Amendment, claims 1-17 have been canceled and claims 18-31 have been added to this application. Early and favorable consideration of this application is respectfully requested.

Applicants do not believe that any fees are due in connection with this submission. However, if such petition is due or any fees are necessary, the Commissioner may consider this to be a request for such and charge any necessary fees to deposit account 23-3000.

Respectfully submitted,

WOOD, HERRON & EVANS, L.L.P.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'David E. Pritchard', written over a horizontal line.

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